

## **NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS**

The Wyoming Department of Agriculture, Consumer Health Services section is amending the Wyoming Food Safety Rule. The amendments are taking place to remain current with requirements of the United States Department of Agriculture in maintaining an “at least equal to” status for the state meat inspection program and to update the Rule due to changes in the Wyoming Food, Drug and Cosmetic Safety Act.

The Department of Agriculture is revising Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 11 and adding Chapters 14 and 15 to the Wyoming Food Safety Rule. Chapters 1 and 2 are amended and Chapter 15 is added in response to HEA38. The revisions in Chapters 1-5 and 10 & 11 reflect changes in the statute, corrections, and further clarification of the Code of Federal Regulations. In order to stay in compliance with the United States Department of Agriculture and to maintain the “at least equal to” status for our state meat inspection program, the Consumer Health Services Division of the Department of Agriculture must have rules which adopt the latest provisions of the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 9, Part 300 to End. The revisions to 9 CFR 300 to End become available January 1 of each year. This rule relocates Chapter 1, Section 17 of the Wyoming Food Safety Rule to new Chapter 14 in order to incorporate the 2009 CFR revisions and become compliant with USDA requirements. On April 28, 2009, the Governor’s Food Safety Council recommended approval of the proposed changes. On April 28, 2009, the Governor’s Food Safety Council met to review the proposed changes and recommends the proposed amendments.

The 45 day public comment period begins July 17, 2009, and ends August 31, 2009. A public hearing will be held if requested by 25 persons, a governmental subdivision or by an association having not less than 25 members. Written comments or request for a public hearing may be addressed to: Wyoming Department of Agriculture, 2219 Carey Ave, Cheyenne, WY 82002.

To obtain a copy of the proposed changes to Wyoming Food Safety Rule or a copy of a complete description of the changes, interested parties may contact Dean Finkenbinder, Manager of Consumer Health Services at (307) 777-6587. The proposed changes to the Wyoming Food Safety Rule may be accessed on the Consumer Health Services website at <http://wyagric.state.wy.us/divisions/chs/foodsafety.htm>.